



County Borough of Tynemouth

FORTY-FOURTH
ANNUAL REPORT

on the
**Medical Inspection
of School Children**

1952



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SCHOOL MEDICAL DEPARTMENT,
EDUCATION OFFICES,
SOUTH PRESTON VILLA,
THE CHASE,
NORTH SHIELDS.

17th March, 1953.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY
BOROUGH OF TYNEMOUTH EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Forty-fourth Annual Report on the work of the School Health Service for the year ending 31st December, 1952.

Periodic inspections and re-inspections in the schools were again carried out by the two part-time Medical Officers, Dr. A. E. White and Dr. Elspeth Spencer. Dr. White devoted three sessions per week to this work and one session to clinical work, while Dr. Spencer devoted her two sessions to inspection in the schools. Dr. Spencer resigned on October 9th 1952, and up to the end of the year had not been replaced.

Miss C. L. Kyles, School Nurse, resigned on February 17th 1952, and a Health Visitor/School Nurse was appointed to fill the vacancy caused by her resignation.

Dr. Margaret B. Steel, Deputy Medical Officer of Health, was again responsible for the medical work in connection with Handicapped Children, also for work in the Tynemouth Open-Air Day School and the Lovaine House Special Day School. Dr. Steel also held clinics in order to deal with special cases. On an average she has devoted three sessions per week to the School Health Service.

The general condition of the children examined at Periodic Inspections was again very satisfactory, 76.42 per cent. of those examined being classified "Good" as compared with 74.47 per cent. in 1951; 0.19 per cent. were classified "Poor" as compared with 0.78 per cent. in 1951.

The close supervision of children both before and after reaching school age, coupled with the fact that milk and meals are available in the schools has, I believe, contributed largely to the improved general condition of the children.

The ascertainment of handicapped pupils plays a great part in attaining an efficient School Health Service. Unfortunately, the problem of placing some of the children in suitable special schools as near to their home County as possible, is very difficult, particularly so in the case of the seriously crippled.

Miss M. A. Peacock, Head Mistress of the Tynemouth Open-Air Day School and the Lovaine House Special Day School since September 1st 1930, resigned her appointment on August 31st 1952. I wish here to place on record my appreciation of the value of Miss Peacock's service, influence and guidance towards the

children who have been under her care. Miss Peacock's wisdom and understanding was an inspiration to all who came in contact with her. I extend to her my sincere wish that she will have a long and happy retirement.

A Speech Therapist was engaged half-time on October 1st 1952, to make a survey of the children in the schools. This appointment was in anticipation of the lady in question qualifying for acceptance as a Licentiate of the College of Speech Therapists in January, 1953.

Finally, I would like to place on record my appreciation of the support I have received from all members of the staff, both professional and clerical, and to record my thanks to all who have co-operated with me in the interests of the School Health Service.

R. H. DAWSON,

Medical Officer of Health and Chief School Medical Officer.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER.

Co-ordination.

Co-ordination with the other Health Services in the Borough has been maintained, particularly with the Maternity and Child Welfare Service. Medical records of pre-school children are transferred to the School Health Service when children reach the age of five years. These records have proved of great value and ensure the continuity of medical supervision of children reaching school age.

Co-operation with the Hospital Services and private practitioners has been consolidated and I take this opportunity of recording my appreciation of the efforts of those concerned.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Facilities were available for diphtheria immunisation at the School Medical Services clinic and at the various Maternity and Child Welfare Centres of the Public Health Department.

During the year, 899 children received a complete course of injections, 117 being school children and 782 pre-school children.

In addition, 740 children of all ages were given reinforcing injections.

It is estimated that at 31st December, 1952, 75.02 per cent. of the child population (i.e. children under 15 years of age) had been immunised, as compared with 73.90 per cent. in 1951.

School Meals and Milk.

During 1952, one day returns showing the numbers of children having school meals were taken on specified days in February, June and October.

In February, the total number was 3,164 of which 647 were free of charge, this former figure being 35.48 per cent. of the School roll. In June, the total number was 3,227, of which 633 were free of charge, the percentage of the school roll dropping to 34.63. In October, the total number rose even further to 3,411, and the free meals figure dropped to 573, but the percentage of the total School roll staying to dinner rose to 36.23.

The percentage of children taking school milk remained constant at 81.6 throughout the year.

This year, 1,200 4-lb. jars of fruit were again bottled by the four Kitchens during the summer months. Gooseberries and plums formed the largest proportion of the bottled fruit, rhubarb, blackcurrants, blackberries and cherries were bottled in smaller quantities.

Chutney was also made, and proved popular particularly with the older children.

To further increase the amount of first class protein in the meals, the rationed meat was used on four days only, ham, cheese, fish or sausage meat being used on the fifth day.

An attempt has been made to introduce new recipes into the menus of the four Kitchens, the wider variety proving very successful.

Medical Inspections.

Periodic medical inspections in the schools of children in the various age groups stipulated by the Ministry of Education continued throughout the year. The inspections afford an excellent opportunity for the parents to discuss with the doctor and head teacher any problems relevant to the child's health and education, and, in the case of school-leavers, the future occupation of the child.

The percentage of parents who were present at periodic inspections was only 64.89 as compared with 66.62 in 1951. This percentage is very disappointing when compared with that of pre-war years when in 1937 it was 76.4 and in 1938 76.9. The fact that many children came alone to the school clinic to consult the doctor, is also evidence that certain children are now left more or less to conduct their own affairs and face their problems without the support of a parent. This, I consider, is a very disturbing state of affairs and certain parents should, in some way, be made aware of their responsibilities.

Findings of Medical Inspection.

The defects, found at periodic medical inspections in the schools and special inspections in the school clinics and schools, which required treatment, or to be kept under observation, are shown in Table II on page 20. In this table is also recorded a classification of the general condition of children inspected in the three age groups.

The following table shows the average heights and weights of boy and girl entrants, selected at intervals, over a period of years since periodic medical inspection commenced.

**Average Heights and Weights
of Boy and Girl Entrants.**

| YEAR | BOY ENTRANTS | | GIRL ENTRANTS | |
|------|-----------------|------|-----------------|------|
| | Average Heights | | Average Heights | |
| | ft. | ins. | ft. | ins. |
| 1909 | 3 | 3.7 | 3 | 3.5 |
| 1918 | 3 | 4.7 | 3 | 4.0 |
| 1927 | 3 | 5.2 | 3 | 5.0 |
| 1936 | 3 | 6.2 | 3 | 6.1 |
| 1945 | 3 | 7.0 | 3 | 7.0 |
| 1950 | 3 | 7.0 | 3 | 6.5 |
| 1951 | 3 | 6.7 | 3 | 6.5 |
| 1952 | 3 | 7.3 | 3 | 6.8 |

Uncleanliness—Head.

(i) GIRLS. 32 or 5.11 per cent. of entrants, 80 or 13.07 per cent. of intermediates, and 41 or 11.62 per cent of leavers were recorded as having nits only present in the hair. 74 or 4.65 per cent. of the total number in the three age groups having nits, were graded as having a minor infestation only. 1 entrant was recorded as verminous.

(ii) BOYS. Of the 1,568 boys examined in the three age groups, 25 were recorded as having nits ; 16 of these were graded as having a minor infestation only. 1 boy was recorded as verminous.

Surprise Cleanliness Surveys.

During a calendar year two complete cleansing surveys are made, if found possible, by the School Nurses and Health Visitors, of all the children attending maintained schools in the area — except the Tynemouth High (Grammar) School. Children found unsatisfactory at these surveys are issued with cleansing instructions, noted, and re-examined from time to time, some of them being referred to the school clinic for treatment and observation.

Following Up.

During the year the School Nurses and Health Visitors followed up 409 cases who were under observation or treatment, in this connection 397 home visits were made and 1,003 inspections were carried out in the schools. Last year 1,462 cases were followed up when 535 home visits were made and 1,163 examinations were carried out in the schools.

Minor Ailments.

Minor Ailment Clinics were held at the School Clinic, Education Offices, South Preston Villa, The Chase, North Shields, when a School Nurse was in attendance on five sessions per week for the treatment of children with minor injuries, sores and minor skin conditions, etc., referred from schools or by a medical officer. 566 cases attended the Clinic and made a total of 3,184 attendances. This compares with 674 cases and 3,568 attendances in 1951, 764 cases and 4,716 attendances in 1950, 928 cases and 7,135 attendances in 1949, and 1,143 cases and 8,042 attendances during 1948. On examination of these figures it will be seen that the number of children who have taken advantage of the facilities offered at the Minor Ailment Clinic has halved over a period of five years.

Scabies (Itch).

13 children were recorded as having received treatment for scabies during the period under review — all were treated under the Local Education Authority's Scheme.

The following table shows the number of cases of scabies treated at the School Clinic for the past eleven consecutive years.

| Year | Number of cases of Scabies treated at the School Clinic |
|------|--|
| 1942 | 572 |
| 1943 | 489 |
| 1944 | 353 |
| 1945 | 227 |
| 1946 | 136 |
| 1947 | 91 |
| 1948 | 47 |
| 1949 | 7 |
| 1950 | 8 |
| 1951 | 5 |
| 1952 | 13 |

Ringworm.

During the year 4 children are known to have received treatment for ringworm of the scalp. 3 of these were treated at one of the Hospitals in Newcastle upon Tyne and one was treated by the family doctor.

Eye Diseases.

68 cases as compared with 82 in 1951 and 140 in 1950, were recorded as having received treatment, 55 at the School Clinic and 13 elsewhere.

Defective Vision and Squint

As the Local Authority has now no facilities for eye examination, children with defective vision and squint were referred to opticians for refraction ; more serious cases were referred to one of the Hospitals in Newcastle upon Tyne.

The number of cases dealt with may be seen by turning to Table IV Group 2, on page 21 of this report.

During the year, 84 Forms O.S.C.10 — as compared with 59 in 1951 — authorising the repair or replacement of spectacles, have been issued by the School Medical Officers.

Squint and Orthoptic Training.

As in past years, children requiring special treatment for squint have been referred to the Newcastle upon Tyne Eye Hospital. Progress reports on our cases attending for regular treatment were received from time to time and for these reports I again wish to record my appreciation to the staff at the Hospital.

24 children were discharged from the Orthoptic Department of the Hospital for the following reasons :—

- 10 cured (1 with operation, 9 without) ;
- 9 cosmetic result ; 2 not improved ;
- 2 failed to attend ; 1 left the district.

During the year 475 attendances were made and 19 operations were performed.

Ear Defects.

55 of the 89 cases dealt with were cases of chronic suppurative otitis media. 5 children were recorded as having had a mastoidectomy at Preston Hospital.

Nose and Throat Defects.

During the period under review we have a record of 112 children who received operative treatment for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis. 11 operations for other nose and throat conditions were also performed.

Non-operative treatment was provided for 114 ear, nose and throat cases, 62 at the School Clinic and 52 elsewhere.

Orthopædic and Postural Defects.

Of the 55 children recorded as having received treatment for orthopædic and postural defects, 13 were treated as in-patients and 42 as out-patients.

The in-patients were treated for the following defects :—

| Defects | No. of Cases |
|---|--------------|
| Bone or Joint Tuberculosis | 6 |
| Perthe's Disease | 2 |
| Old Poliomyelitis | 2 |
| Osteochonero Dystrophy | 1 |
| General Spastic condition of left leg ... | 1 |
| Flat Feet | 1 |

The 42 children who received out-patient treatment suffered from the following defects :—

| Defects | No. of Cases |
|---|--------------|
| Flat Feet | 7 |
| Bone or Joint Tuberculosis | 6 |
| Fractures | 6 |
| Talipes | 3 |
| Hemiplegia | 2 |
| Bilateral Chondritis Ossificans (suspected) | 1 |
| Infantile Paralysis | 2 |
| Club-Foot | 1 |
| Birth injury affecting right arm and left leg | 1 |
| Contractive Finger | 1 |
| Osteochonera Dystrophy | 1 |
| Spastic Monoplegia | 1 |
| Osteitis Left Tibia—Effects of | 1 |
| Osteo-myelitis Right Femur | 1 |
| Perthe's Disease | 1 |
| Active Scheuermann's Disease | 1 |
| Old Poliomyelitis | 2 |
| Deformity Foot | 1 |
| Miscellaneous | 3 |

Infectious Diseases.

An extract from the Head Teachers' weekly returns of children absent from school on account of Infectious and Other Diseases for the past ten years is as follows :—

| DISEASE | YEAR | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| | 1943 | 1944 | 1945 | 1946 | 1947 | 1948 | 1949 | 1950 | 1951 | 1952 |
| Scarlet Fever .. | 64 | 124 | 77 | 48 | 18 | 47 | 27 | 55 | 33 | 22 |
| Diphtheria | 45 | 69 | 47 | 32 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 1 | — | — |
| Measles | 196 | 456 | 151 | 401 | 80 | 317 | 245 | 277 | 302 | 301 |
| German Measles .. | 31 | 621 | 17 | 50 | 15 | 12 | 107 | 28 | 21 | 500 |
| Whooping Cough .. | 78 | 203 | 85 | 136 | 78 | 105 | 70 | 164 | 105 | 84 |
| Chicken Pox | 470 | 289 | 251 | 174 | 353 | 279 | 123 | 392 | 693 | 503 |
| Mumps | 75 | 141 | 503 | 20 | 192 | 490 | 25 | 20 | 881 | 181 |
| Ringworm | 6 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 10 | 16 | 17 | 11 |
| Impetigo | 64 | 81 | 83 | 57 | 35 | 28 | 40 | 16 | 23 | 21 |
| Scabies | 236 | 171 | 118 | 46 | 45 | 17 | 5 | 10 | 9 | 4 |
| Verminous Conditions | 11 | 16 | 17 | 12 | 8 | 18 | 15 | 7 | 14 | 9 |

From the above figures it will be seen that German Measles and Chicken Pox were prevalent during the year under review — German Measles during the months of April, May and June, and Chicken Pox during the first six months of the year.

I have pleasure in submitting the Twenty-eighth Report on School Dental Inspection and Treatment.

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL DENTAL OFFICER FOR THE YEAR 1952.

I have pleasure in submitting my Fifteenth Annual Report on the School Dental Inspections and Treatment for the year ending the 31st December, 1952, this being the Twenty-eighth Annual Report.

The following is a brief account of the various forms of treatment undertaken at the Clinic and elsewhere, while full statistics can be found in another section of this publication.

Routine work during the year was again hampered by the large number of emergency cases requiring treatment and the delay between school inspections and the necessary treatment has now reached a period of over a year. This serious delay results in the loss of teeth which might be saved if early attention could be given to them. The large number of permanent teeth which have to be extracted are a proof that unless sufficient staff are employed, the dental care of children's mouths falls far short of what is required.

The Routine Inspection of children attending the Primary Schools was continued as in former years and 2,721 children were inspected. Of this number 1,457 required treatment and an acceptance rate by the parents of 83.3 per cent. was recorded.

At the weekly session held each Saturday morning at Preston Hospital 430 operations were performed under general anæsthetics. These facilities were of great assistance in dealing with children requiring many extractions or those difficult to treat. Thanks are again due to the Medical Superintendent, the Anæsthetists and the Nursing Staff for their valued assistance.

In the Public Health Department the weekly session for the dental examination of expectant and nursing mothers and pre-school children was held every Monday afternoon as before and 240 pre-school children and 32 adults were examined. Where treatment was required these patients were referred to private practitioners in the area.

The distribution of capsules containing vitamins and calcium products was continued both at the School Dental Clinic and the Public Health Department. A marked improvement in the general health and in the mouths, was noted in a large number of the children receiving this treatment.

Pupils attending the Tynemouth High (Grammar) School made 171 attendances at the Clinic and the work undertaken for them comprised 79 fillings, 82 extractions and 29 other operations.

Children attending the Open-Air Day School and Lovaine House Special Day School were inspected in December and of the 90 pupils examined 43 required treatment. During the year 42 attendances at the Clinic were made by patients from these schools.

Many other forms of treatment were undertaken including operations for the correction of misplaced teeth, gum treatment and the scaling and cleaning of teeth. A total of 681 dressings were inserted in the treatment and conservation of decayed permanent and temporary teeth.

In conclusion my sincere thanks are again due to the School Medical Staff, the Head Teachers and their Staffs and to Miss H. Gray, the School Dental Attendant, for their valued assistance so readily given when required.

(Signed) RICHARD W. ESSENHIGH,
School Dental Officer.

Handicapped Pupils.

Below is shown the number of children in the various categories of "Handicapped Pupils" who were receiving their education in special schools at the end of the year 1952.

| | |
|--|---|
| Blind Pupils | 2 in a residential school. |
| Partially Sighted Pupils | 2 in a residential school and 1 in a Special Day School. |
| Deaf Pupils | 6 in a residential school. |
| Delicate Pupils | 46 in the Tynemouth Open-Air Day School. |
| Educationally Sub-Normal Pupils | 42 in the Lovaine House Special Day School and 4 in a res- idential school. |

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|----|---|
| Physically Handicapped Pupils | 19 | in the Tynemouth Open-Air Day School and 1 in a residential school. |
| Maladjusted Pupils | 2 | in the Tynemouth Open-Air Day School. |
| Epileptic Pupils | 1 | in the Tynemouth Open-Air Day School. |

Maladjusted Pupils.

Arrangements for referring cases for advice or treatment by the Child Guidance Clinic team of Psychiatrist, Educational Psychologist and Psychiatric Social Worker at the Child Guidance Clinic, Sunderland, continued as in past years. 4 children were treated there during 1952 and 1 was treated at the Newcastle upon Tyne General Hospital. Of the 5 children who received treatment 2 were discharged for observation by the School Medical Officer ; 1 was discharged and put under the observation of the Probation Officer — he was eventually admitted to an Approved School ; 2 were still under treatment at the end of the year.

Tynemouth Open-Air Day School and Lovaine House Special Day School.

Medical arrangements in both Special Schools continued as in previous years.

Regular visits were paid to the Open-Air Day School by the Deputy Medical Officer of Health and a Health Visitor. 158 re-examinations were carried out by the Medical Officer to check on children's progress, and to ascertain when they were fit to return to an ordinary school.

Of the 19 children referred for examination with a view to admission to Lovaine House Special Day School, it was recommended that 6 should continue their education in an ordinary school ; 10 were actually admitted to the school and 3, who were examined at the end of the year, were recommended for admission in January 1953.

37 periodic medical inspections were carried out and 3 children were re-examined mentally by a Medical Officer during the year. 7 children were reported by the Local Education Authority to the Local Health Authority — 5 in accordance with Section 57 (3) and 2 in accordance with Section 57 (5) of the Education Act, 1944.

I have pleasure in submitting the Reports of the Head Mistress, Miss E. McRitchie, giving details of the work of the two Special Schools.

TYNEMOUTH OPEN-AIR DAY SCHOOL

Report for 1952.

In this, my first report, I wish to pay tribute to my predecessor, Miss M. A. Peacock, who retired from the Headship of the Special Schools in August of this year.

The invaluable work which she accomplished during her many years of Service in the Special Schools will long be remembered. It is true to say that she gave her utmost both in physical strength and in mental preparation to the work with which she was entrusted.

It will be my earnest endeavour to carry on the work of the schools with the same high ideals which she always maintained, and which gained for her the respect and loyal co-operation of all who came in contact with her.

May she have a long and happy retirement for few deserve it more than she.

With reference to the school, I think I may state that a year of steady progress has been maintained. After admitting one child on the first school day of 1952 there were 80 children on the roll, 37 girls and 43 boys. During the year 21 children, 10 boys and 11 girls were admitted and 33 children, 17 boys and 16 girls were discharged. The average number on the roll was 80 and the average attendance was 66 or 82.5 per cent.

The ailments of the children admitted during the year may be classified as follows :—

Admitted by the School Medical Officer :—

| | |
|---|----------|
| Perthe's Disease | 2 |
| General Debility with or without accompanying defects | 6 |
| Congenital Heart Disease | 2 |
| Allergic Catarrh — Otitis Media | 2 |
| ? Effects of Rheumatic Fever | 1 |
| Tuberculosis of Right Knee | 1 |
| | Total 14 |

Admitted by Chest Physician :—

| | |
|---|---------|
| Pulmonary Tuberculosis — not active | 1 |
| Tuberculosis Contacts | 5 |
| Delicate child (underweight) | 1 |
| | Total 7 |

Children discharged by the School Medical Officer during the year may be divided into the following groups :—

| | |
|--|-------|
| Transferred to Primary or Secondary Modern Schools as fit after medical examination | 10 |
| Transferred to Special School | 2 |
| Left at the age of 15 years | 1 |
| Left the district | 1 |
| Discharged at parent's request | 2 |
| Unfit to attend any school | 1 |
| Discharged to hospital | 1 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total | 18 |

The duration of their stay in the Open-Air School is as follows:

| Length of Stay | Number of Children |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 6 to 7 years | 1 |
| 5 to 6 years | 1 |
| 4 to 5 years | 1 |
| 3 to 4 years | 4 |
| 2 to 3 years | 5 |
| 1 to 2 years | 4 |
| Under 1 year | 2 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total | 18 |

Children discharged by the Chest Physician :—

| | |
|---|-------|
| Transferred to Primary or Secondary Modern Schools | 12 |
| Left the district | 2 |
| Discharged at parent's request | 1 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total | 15 |

| Length of Stay | Number of Children |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 5 to 6 years | 1 |
| 1 to 2 years | 12 |
| Under 1 year | 2 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total | 15 |

Dr. Steel, the Deputy Medical Officer of Health, paid regular monthly visits to examine the children. The Chest Physician visited at intervals to examine Chest Clinic cases. Frequent visits were paid by the Health Visitor in order to follow up certain cases. Minor ailments were dealt with at the School Clinic and children who required dental treatment received prompt attention at the Dental Clinic.

Miss J. Bewick, keenly interested in Special School work, and who had taught in the school for nine years prior to 1947, when she left owing to home circumstances, rejoined the Staff in September, and was warmly welcomed by all.

Routine arrangements with regard to meals, conveyance of children, bathing and weighing of children were carried out as usual.

In concluding this report, I should like to express my sincere thanks and appreciation for the loyal and willing co-operation and great help I have had since taking charge in September from all connected with the school.

(Signed) E. McRITCHIE,
Head Mistress

LOVAINE HOUSE SPECIAL DAY SCHOOL Report for 1952.

The year began with 37 children, 21 boys and 16 girls, on the roll. The average number on the roll for the year was 40 and the average attendance was 36 or 90 per cent. During the year, 10 children, 5 boys and 5 girls, were admitted, and 3 children, 2 boys and 1 girl, were discharged for the following reasons :—

| | |
|---|---|
| Left at the age of 16 years | 2 |
| Left the district (in a residential home) | 1 |
| | — |
| Total | 3 |
| | — |

The following Table shows the mental grades of the children who were on the roll at the end of the year :—

| Intelligence Quotients | 80 or over | | 79 to 70 | | 69 to 60 | | 59 to 50 | | Below 50 | |
|-------------------------------------|------------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|
| | Boys | Girls | Boys | Girls | Boys | Girls | Boys | Girls | Boys | Girls |
| Number of children in each grade .. | 2 | — | 3 | 1 | 11 | 8 | 8 | 9 | — | 2 |
| | 2 | | 4 | | 19 | | 17 | | 2 | |

Although, already having paid tribute in the Open-Air School Report, to Miss Peacock's excellent work in the Special Schools, I wish to mention her again in this report. Since taking charge of Lovaine House Special School, the work of which was almost entirely new to me, I realise more fully how very fitted Miss Peacock was for the task which she accomplished with such dignity and calmness in spite of the numerous difficulties which must have confronted her throughout the years.

She was rewarded for her loyal service by gaining the affection and esteem of the children who came under her care.

Mr. McQueen, a member of the Staff, retired from teaching in December. We wish him success in the business venture which he has undertaken.

Routine arrangements were unchanged. Bathing of some of the children was carried out at the Open-Air School, and minor ailments treated at the School Clinic.

Milk, under the Milk-in-Schools Scheme, was provided for each child. A hot mid-day meal was served to nearly all of the children, only a few of the older ones going home for this meal.

The older boys had swimming lessons, one of them gaining a certificate.

In concluding this my first report, I wish to tender sincere thanks for the valuable assistance and advice I have had since September from the School Medical Staff, the Education Staff, and also for the loyal co-operation of the teaching and domestic staffs.

(Signed) E. McRITCHIE,
Head Mistress.

Speech Defects.

17 children received treatment for speech defects either privately or at one of the Hospitals in Newcastle upon Tyne.

Other Defects Treated.

Other defects treated, not falling into the classifications mentioned in Table IV Groups 1—6, may be seen by referring to page 23 Group 7. Of the 223 miscellaneous minor ailments treated at the School Clinic, 128 were minor injuries and 62 were sores.

Nursery Schools.

Arrangements at the Sir James Knott Nursery School at Tyne-mouth, and the Howdon Road Nursery School at North Shields continued as in past years and both schools are running smoothly.

The Schools were again visited regularly by the Honorary Medical Officer, every child being seen once; special cases were seen more frequently. The Health Visitors for the areas paid frequent visits to the two Nursery Schools, weekly if possible, when their advice was freely given.

Miscellaneous Medical Examinations.

141 children were medically examined in accordance with the Children and Young Persons Act 1933; employment certificates were granted in all but one case.

STATISTICAL TABLES.

Statistical tables required by the Ministry of Education follow.

MEDICAL INSPECTION RETURNS

Year ended 31st December, 1952.

TABLE I.

Medical Inspection of Pupils attending Maintained Primary and Secondary Schools (including Special Schools).

A.—PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups :

| | |
|--|-------|
| Entrants | 1,220 |
| Second Age Group | 1,174 |
| Third Age Group | 765 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total .. | 3,159 |
| Number of other Periodic Inspections | — |
| | <hr/> |
| GRAND TOTAL .. | 3,159 |

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------|
| Number of Special Inspections | 396 |
| Number of Re-Inspections | 1,937 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total .. | 2,333 |

C.—PUPILS FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT.

Number of Individual Pupils found at Periodic Medical Inspection to Require Treatment (excluding Dental Diseases and Infestation with Vermin).

| Group | For defective vision (excluding squint). | For any of the other conditions recorded in Table IIA. | Total <i>individual</i> pupils. |
|------------------------------------|--|--|---------------------------------|
| Entrants | 4 | 147 | 151 |
| Second Age Group | 150 | 109 | 241 |
| Third Age Group | 137 | 40 | 168 |
| Total (prescribed groups) | 291 | 296 | 560 |
| Other Periodic Inspections | — | — | — |
| Grand Total | 291 | 296 | 560 |

TABLE II.

A.—RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION.

| Defect Code No. | Defect or Disease | PERIODIC INSPECTIONS | | SPECIAL INSPECTIONS | |
|-----------------|---------------------------|----------------------|---|---------------------|---|
| | | No. of defects | | No. of defects | |
| | | Requiring Treatment | Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment | Requiring Treatment | Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment |
| 4 | Skin | 23 | 4 | 35 | — |
| 5 | Eyes— <i>a.</i> Vision .. | 291 | 25 | 63 | 12 |
| | <i>b.</i> Squint .. | 67 | 1 | 11 | 1 |
| | <i>c.</i> Other .. | 4 | 2 | 16 | 1 |
| 6 | Ears— <i>a.</i> Hearing | 5 | 13 | 2 | 1 |
| | <i>b.</i> Otitis | | | | |
| | Media | 35 | — | 12 | — |
| | <i>c.</i> Other .. | 4 | 3 | 25 | — |
| 7 | Nose or Throat .. | 82 | 43 | 44 | 12 |
| 8 | Speech | 3 | 13 | 1 | 3 |
| 9 | Cervical Glands .. | 3 | 2 | 7 | 2 |
| 10 | Heart & Circulat'n | 4 | 12 | 3 | — |
| 11 | Lungs | 5 | 11 | 11 | — |
| 12 | Developmental— | | | | |
| | <i>a.</i> Hernia .. | 2 | 2 | 1 | — |
| | <i>b.</i> Other .. | 3 | 5 | — | 4 |
| 13 | Orthopaedic— | | | | |
| | <i>a.</i> Posture | — | — | — | — |
| | <i>b.</i> Flat foot | 2 | — | 5 | — |
| | <i>c.</i> Other .. | 10 | 5 | 5 | 1 |
| 14 | Nervous System— | | | | |
| | <i>a.</i> Epilepsy | 1 | — | — | — |
| | <i>b.</i> Other .. | 19 | 6 | 10 | 4 |
| 15 | Psychological— | | | | |
| | <i>a.</i> Development | 37 | — | 17 | 6 |
| | <i>b.</i> Stability .. | — | — | 4 | 2 |
| 16 | Other | 12 | 21 | 57 | 8 |

B.—CLASSIFICATION OF THE GENERAL CONDITION OF PUPILS INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR IN THE AGE GROUPS.

| Age Groups | Number of Pupils Inspected | A. (Good) | | B. (Fair) | | C. (Poor) | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| | | No. | % of col. 2 | No. | % of col. 2 | No. | % of col. 2 |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7) | (8) |
| Entrants .. | 1,220 | 1065 | 87.30 | 154 | 12.62 | 1 | 0.08 |
| Second Age Group | 1,174 | 785 | 66.87 | 385 | 32.79 | 4 | 0.34 |
| Third Age Group | 765 | 564 | 73.73 | 200 | 26.14 | 1 | 0.13 |
| Other Periodic Inspections .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Total .. | 3,159 | 2,414 | 76.42 | 739 | 23.39 | 6 | 0.19 |

TABLE III.
Infestation with Vermin.

| | | |
|-------|---|--------|
| (i) | Total number of examinations in the schools by the school nurses or other authorized persons | 15,216 |
| (ii) | Total number of <i>individual</i> pupils found to be infested .. | 1,213 |
| (iii) | Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2), Education Act, 1944) .. | 859 |
| (iv) | Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54 (3), Education Act, 1944) .. | — |

TABLE IV.
TREATMENT TABLES.

GROUP I.—DISEASES OF THE SKIN (excluding uncleanness, for which see Table III).

| | Number of cases treated or under treatment during the year | |
|---------------------------|--|-----------|
| | by the Authority | otherwise |
| Ringworm—(i) Scalp .. | — | 4 |
| (ii) Body .. | 7 | 1 |
| Scabies | 13 | — |
| Impetigo | 23 | 3 |
| Other skin diseases | 71 | 41 |
| Total .. | 114 | 49 |

GROUP 2.—EYE DISEASES, DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT.

| | Number of cases dealt with | |
|---|----------------------------|-----------|
| | by the Authority | otherwise |
| External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint | 55 | 13 |
| Errors of Refraction (including squint) | — | 327 |
| Total .. | 55 | 340 |
| Number of pupils for whom spectacles were | | |
| (a) Prescribed | — | 267 |
| (b) Obtained | — | 267 |

GROUP 3.—DISEASES AND DEFECTS OF EAR, NOSE AND THROAT.

| | Number of cases treated | |
|--|-------------------------|-----------|
| | by the Authority | otherwise |
| Received operative treatment | | |
| (a) for diseases of the ear .. | — | 5 |
| (b) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis | — | 112 |
| (c) for other nose and throat conditions | — | 11 |
| Received other forms of treatment | 62 | 52 |
| Total .. | 62 | 180 |

GROUP 4.—ORTHOPÆDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS.

| | | |
|--|------------------|-----------|
| (a) Number treated as in-patients in hospitals .. | 13 | |
| | By the Authority | Otherwise |
| (b) Number treated otherwise, <i>e.g.</i> , in clinics or out-patient departments .. | 9 | 33 |

GROUP 5.—CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT.

| | Number of cases treated | |
|---|---|-----------|
| | In the Authority's Child Guidance Clinics | Elsewhere |
| Number of pupils treated at Child Guidance Clinics .. | — | 5 |

GROUP 6.—SPEECH THERAPY.

| | Number of cases treated | |
|---|-------------------------|-----------|
| | By the Authority | Otherwise |
| Number of pupils treated by Speech Therapists | — | 17 |

